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ORIGIN:	Arab States	REF ID:	200-478
ORIGIN:	Palestine	DATE OF REPORT:	21 March 1948
SOURCE:	Jewish Agency	DATE OF INFO:	20 February 1948
SUB-SOURCE:		EXAMINER:	Looney
SUBJECT:	Arab League Decisions on Palestine		

2. The Jewish Agency's Arab Information (Jerusalem), dated 20 February 1948 (ref ID: 200-478) gives the following information on the Arab League's decisions on Palestine:

2a. "The League Council ended its meeting without officially publishing its decisions, thus following its usual practice. A number of extremist states, like Saudi Arabia and Iraq, were opposed to the League's decision for which there was an insufficient basis. The Arab League had been constantly urging an immediate invasion of Palestine by the regular Arab armies, but there is no evidence that this demand has been met. In the opinion of Iraq, for instance, the Arab states have already implemented the resolutions adopted at previous sessions. In Palestine itself there has been no official announcement of the resolutions. It is suspending judgment until the resolutions are translated into Arabic."

2b. "The body which will hereafter deal with Palestine affairs will evidently be the new Palestine Administrative Committee, consisting of 'Azzam, the HFTI and the Arab League' (the last named presumably represents the League's Military Committee). Representatives of the other Arab states may be co-opted to the Administrative Committee. The question of an all-Palestine Arab government has been altogether dropped, and the HFTI himself has admitted that to pursue it would only be liable to cause tension among the Arab countries."

2c. "A conference of the heads of the regular Arab armies is to be held in Geneva shortly with a view to taking joint measures in the event of a decision to send an international force to Palestine, following the suggestion of KUTUB Pasha of Egypt. The League's Military Committee seems to have advised a number of anti-invasive officers. An official military conference was held in Cairo with Ismail Farouk and Colonel General MUHAMMAD (Lahore), was attended by 'Abd al-Qadir HUSSEINI and Hasan SALAH. The question of co-ordinating activities in the districts controlled by the two latter seems to have been discussed."

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Other resolutions accepted at the League Council's session include a supplementary appropriation of L.P. 3 million for the study of Palestine and an increase in the number of visiting delegations to Syria and Egypt. It was decided to refer to the government committee a proposal for the liquidation of a Syrian Palestine fund in all the Arab League countries. Incidentally, the Arab Governments have also been asked to expedite the collection of donations for Palestine in their respective countries in view of the above of the French initiative granted in this connection.

In summary, the complicated situation now obtaining within the Arab League (Palmer in North Africa, the Jewish question in Syria, the liquidation of the fund and civil war in Turkey and the absence of a settlement with Syria) has made it impossible to adopt any important Arab-League resolutions. For instance, the proposal for the liquidation of Arab currencies has also been referred to the League studies for further study. While it was not only the resolutions on Palestine that proved to be under their development in Arab dealings.

How Far and in How Many Years?

The latter part of the League meeting was devoted to discussing the Arab and Jewish to be adopted by the Arab in the Arab League Council. In attempt to get down to all a possible Arab-Jewish conference will take. Reports are now being made to League study to make such a move, as it is felt desirable that the Arab-Jewish should come from a non-partisan meeting. The Arab League to gain the adoption of a resolution in the League Council calling for a special session of the General Assembly to re-examine the question of Palestine under other conditions at present are to meet in Geneva in April and then later in London. It was announced in March that the Arab League had threatened to expel the U.S. Air Force from Palestine following the termination of the agreement in March 1949 but it is not yet known whether this report has any foundation. There is talk about then possible resolutions that the Arab League have been formed with implementing in the event that an international force is sent to Palestine. So far the talk was has been met by a number of declarations. The Syrian and Lebanese announced that their governments would oppose the League of the Palestine. 145748 has stated that a declaration has been taken not to grant any new concessions (this declaration is already a year and a half old). If the Arab do not do that, "perhaps", he said, "it will not be possible to proceed with the Arab League. The Arab League has also been hindered by the representation of the Arab States in the League Council. At the same time, however, the Arab League Executive's representation as Arab States. 1224 145748 has expressed his personal view that the Arab will not depend on discussing proposals for settling the question provided they are based on justice and meet the vital requirements for the Arab. Incidentally, he stated that the Arab (State of Palestine) might be ready to enter into negotiations with a committee or the like party.

There is considerable opinion among the Arab and to have increased study during the past few days. This could easily happen.

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